Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A nucleic acid construct for expression of a ~~small peptide~~ glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) or an analog thereof, comprising:

a nucleic acid sequence encoding a signal peptide;

a nucleic acid sequence encoding the pro-region of a somatostatin, or a functional fragment of the pro-region of a somatostatin sufficient to promote secretion from a cell, or a variant of the pro-region of a somatostatin wherein the variant differs from the wild-type amino acid sequence by at least 1 but not more than 15 amino acid residues and is sufficient to promote secretion from a cell; and

a nucleic acid sequence encoding a ~~small peptide other than somatostatin~~ GLP-1 or an analog thereof.

2. (Previously Presented) The construct of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid sequence encoding the signal peptide is from a nucleic acid sequence encoding the pre-region of a somatostatin.

3.-5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently amended) The construct of claim 1, wherein the construct further comprises a nucleotide sequence encoding a cleavage site between the sequence encoding the pro-region and the sequence encoding the ~~small peptide~~ GLP-1 or analog thereof.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously Presented) The construct of claim 6, wherein the cleavage site is a multibasic, dibasic or monobasic cleavage site.

9. (Previously Presented) The construct of claim 6, wherein the cleavage site is an endoprotease cleavage site.

10. (Previously Presented) The construct of claim 9, wherein the cleavage site is recognized by a pro-protein convertase.

11. (Original) The construct of claim 10, wherein the pro-protein convertase is furin, substilisin-related pro-protein convertase, PC1, PC2, PC6 or PC7.

12. (Original) The construct of claim 1, further comprising at least one regulatory sequence.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) A non-endocrine cell comprising a nucleic acid sequence that encodes a fusion protein that comprises (a) a signal peptide, (b) a pro-region of a somatostatin or a functional fragment of the pro-region of a somatostatin sufficient to promote secretion from a cell or a variant of the pro-region of a somatostatin wherein the variant differs from the wild-type amino acid sequence by at least 1 but not more than 15 amino acid residues and is sufficient to promote secretion from a cell, and (c) a glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) or an analog thereof ~~small peptide other than somatostatin~~, the cell being capable of secreting the ~~small peptide~~ GLP-1 or analog thereof.

15-16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently amended) The cell of claim 14, wherein the encoded fusion protein further comprises a cleavage site between the pro-region and the ~~small peptide~~ GLP-1 or analog thereof.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) The cell of claim 14, wherein the cell is capable of expressing the ~~small peptide~~ GLP-1 or analog thereof in mature form without the signal peptide and pro-region of somatostatin.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Original) The cell of claim 14, wherein the cell is a primary cell.

22. (Original) The cell of claim 14, wherein the cell is a secondary cell.

23. (Original) The cell of claim 14, wherein the cell is a mammalian cell.

24. (Original) The cell of claim 23, wherein the cell is a human cell.

25. (Original) The cell of claim 23, wherein the cell is a fibroblast or a myoblast.

26. (Previously Presented) The cell of claim 14, wherein the cell is one in which somatostatin is not normally expressed.

27. (Previously presented) The cell of claim 14, wherein the nucleic acid sequence that encodes the fusion protein is operably linked to at least one regulatory sequence sufficient for expression of the fusion protein in the cell.

28. (Previously Presented) The cell of claim 14, wherein the signal peptide is from the pre-region of a somatostatin.

29.-31. (Canceled)

32. (Previously presented) The cell of claim 17, wherein the cleavage site is a multibasic, dibasic or monobasic cleavage site.

33. (Original) The cell of claim 32, wherein the cleavage site is an endoprotease cleavage site.

34. (Previously Presented) The cell of claim 33, wherein the cleavage site is recognized by a pro-protein convertase.

35. (Original) The cell of claim 34, wherein the pro-protein convertase is furin, PACE4, substilisin-related pro-protein convertase, PC1, PC2, PC6 or PC7.

36. (Previously presented) The cell of claim 17, wherein the cleavage site is a blood coagulation factor cleavage site.

37. (Canceled)

38. (Currently amended) A method of making a ~~small peptide~~ GLP-1 or an analog thereof comprising culturing the cell of claim 14 to thereby obtain ~~a small peptide~~ GLP-1 or an analog thereof.

39. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 38, wherein the ~~small peptide~~ GLP-1 or analog thereof is obtained in mature form without the signal peptide and pro-region of somatostatin.

40. (Currently amended) The method of claim 38, wherein the ~~small peptide~~ GLP-1 or analog thereof is obtained as part of a fusion peptide which further comprises the pro-region of somatostatin or a functional fragment thereof.

41. (Currently amended) A method of making a cell capable of secreting a ~~small peptide~~ GLP-1 or an analog thereof, comprising:

providing a non-endocrine cell; and

introducing into the cell a nucleic acid construct of claim 1 or 6 to thereby obtain a cell capable of expressing the ~~small peptide~~ GLP-1 or analog thereof.

42. (Original) The method of claim 41, wherein the cell is a primary cell.

43. (Original) The method of claim 41, wherein the cell is a secondary cell.

44. (Original) The method of claim 41, wherein the cell is a mammalian cell.

45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, wherein the sequence encoding the signal peptide is from the nucleic acid sequence encoding the pre-region of a somatostatin.

46-82. (Canceled)

83. (Previously presented) A nucleic acid construct for expression of GLP-1, comprising: a nucleic acid sequence encoding a fusion protein comprising a signal peptide from the pre-region of somatostatin; the pro-region of a somatostatin or a functional fragment or variant thereof wherein the fragment or variant is sufficient to promote secretion from a cell and wherein the variant differs from the wild-type amino acid sequence by at least 1 but not more than 15 amino acid residues; and GLP-1.

84. (Currently amended) A non-endocrine, mammalian cell comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding a fusion protein comprising: a signal peptide, the pro-region of somatostatin,

and a ~~small peptide other than somatostatin~~ GLP-1, wherein the cell secretes the ~~small peptide~~ GLP-1.

85. (Canceled).

86. (Previously Presented) The cell of claim 84, wherein the cell is a human cell.

87. (Previously Presented) The cell of claim 84, wherein the cell is a fibroblast.

88. (Canceled)

89. (Previously Presented) A non-endocrine, human cell comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding a fusion protein comprising: the prepro-region of somatostatin and GLP-1, wherein the cell secretes GLP-1.

90. (Previously Presented) The construct of claim 1, wherein the variant of the pro-region of somatostatin differs from the wild-type amino acid sequence by at least 1 but not more than 10 amino acid residues.

91. (Previously Presented) The construct of claim 1, wherein the variant of the pro-region of somatostatin differs from the wild-type amino acid sequence by at least 1 but not more than 5 amino acid residues.

92. (Previously Presented) The cell of claim 14, wherein the variant of the pro-region of somatostatin differs from the wild-type amino acid sequence by at least 1 but not more than 10 amino acid residues.

93. (Previously Presented) The cell of claim 14, wherein the variant of the pro-region of somatostatin differs from the wild-type amino acid sequence by at least 1 but not more than 5 amino acid residues.